

NAKAJIMA -- 09/786,208
Attorney Docket: 007874-0277852

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) ~~An electronic settlement~~ A transaction system for settling a transaction transacting through a communication network, comprising:

~~a settlement apparatus which performs the settlement of the transaction;~~

a billing first terminal connecting to said ~~settlement apparatus~~ via the communication network and having an information indicting unit: [[and]]

a paying second terminal, ~~connecting to said settlement apparatus via~~ and having a unique ID information and an input unit, said second terminal being located at a same site as said first terminal and connectable to said first terminal through the communication network[[.]] and

a transaction apparatus communicating with said first and second terminals through the communication network, said transaction apparatus previously storing said unique ID information of said second terminal, said transaction apparatus setting up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said indicating unit of said first terminal, said transaction apparatus receiving from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information indicated on said information indicating unit of said first terminal and inputted through said input unit of said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal, said transaction apparatus performine the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said transaction apparatus previously

~~wherein said settlement apparatus performs the settlement of a transaction by synchronizing a communication to said billing terminal with a communication to said paying terminal when said settlement apparatus sets up a transaction identifying number which identifies the transaction and when said paying terminal transmits the same transaction identifying number to said settlement apparatus.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~An electronic settlement~~ A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said billing first terminal connects to said settlement transaction apparatus

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via a commercial telephone line or a private line, and said paying second terminal connects to said settlement transaction apparatus via a radiotelephone communication.

3. (Currently amended) A settlement transaction apparatus for transaction through a communication network with a first terminal and a second terminal having a unique ID information performing a settlement of a transaction, which communicates with a billing terminal performing billing of the transaction and with a paying terminal performing paying of the transaction, the apparatus comprising:

a first communication unit connecting to the billing terminal via a first communication network;

a second communication unit connecting to the paying terminal via a second communication network; and

a processing unit for processing the settlement of the transaction, said processing unit synchronizing a communication to the billing terminal with a communication to the paying terminal when said processing unit sets up a transaction identifying number to identify the transaction, and when the paying terminal transmits to said settlement apparatus the same transaction identifying number a user database for previously storing said unique ID information of said second terminal;

a processing unit for setting up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal.

a first communication unit for connecting to the first terminal via a first communication network, said first communication unit sending the transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal to said first terminal; and

a second communication unit for connecting to the second terminal via a second communication network and receiving from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information that is indicated on said first terminal and inputted through said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal.

wherein said processing unit performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said user database.

4. (Currently amended) A settlement transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3,

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wherein said first communication unit connects to the billing first terminal via at least one of a commercial telephone line and a private line, and said second communication unit connects to the paying second terminal via radiotelephone communication.

5. (Currently amended) A settlement transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein:

said first communication unit receives a purchase amount of the transaction from the billing first terminal;

said second communication unit transmits said purchase amount to the paying second terminal so that the paying second terminal confirms said purchase amount, and receives a final purchase confirmation signal;

said processing unit performs a settlement processing after said second communication unit receives the final purchase confirmation signal from the paying second terminal;

said first communication unit transmits a settlement completion notification, which notifies completion of the settlement processing performed by said processing unit to the billing first terminal; and

said second communication unit transmits to the paying second terminal a receipt which notifies the receiving of said purchase amount of the settlement processed by said processing unit.

6. (Currently amended) A settlement transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a billing first terminal database storing information about the billing first terminal,

wherein said first communication unit receives from the billing first terminal an identifying number to identify the billing first terminal, and

said processing unit retrieves information about the billing first terminal from said billing first terminal database and confirms a registration of the billing first terminal, based on the identifying number.

7. (Currently amended) A settlement transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said second communication unit transmits to the paying second terminal the information about the billing first terminal, for the paying second terminal to confirm the billing first terminal, retrieved from said billing first terminal database.

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8. (Currently amended) A ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a paying second terminal database which stores information about the paying second terminal,

wherein said second communication unit detects a calling telephone number of the paying second terminal, and

said processing unit retrieves information about a user of the paying second terminal from said paying second terminal database based on the calling telephone number, and said processing unit inquires about at least one of a registration status of the user, a payment history of the user, and available amount of the user.

9. (Currently amended) A ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said processing unit retrieves at least a part of attribute information of the user of the paying second terminal from said paying terminal database, and said first communication unit transmits to the billing first terminal at least a part of the attribute information of the user of the paying second terminal.

10. (Currently amended) A ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein when said second communication unit receives a message which demands a purchase history of the user of the paying second terminal, said processing unit retrieves said purchase history of the user from said paying second terminal database, and said second communication unit transmits the purchase history to the paying second terminal.

11. (Currently amended) A ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said first communication unit transmits to the billing first terminal a transaction identifying number in order to identify the transaction, and
said processing unit synchronizes a communication to the billing first terminal with a communication to the paying second terminal, and said first communication unit transmits to the billing first terminal a synchronization confirmation signal which indicates establishment of synchronization, when the billing first terminal notifies said transaction identifying number to at least one of the paying second terminal and a user of the paying second terminal, and when the paying second terminal transmits to said ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus the same transaction identifying number.

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12.-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently amended) ~~An electronic settlement~~ A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus presents said transaction identifying number on the communication network.

41. (Currently amended) ~~A settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said ~~settlement~~ transaction apparatus presents said transaction identifying number on the communication network.

42.-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended) ~~An electronic settlement~~ A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transaction identification number relates to an order in the transaction.

47. (Currently amended) ~~A settlement~~ transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said transaction identification number relates to an order in the transaction.

48.-51. (Canceled)

52. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said second terminal is a unique terminal for a user and said input unit of said second terminal inputs said unique ID information thereof into said transaction apparatus previously, and said transaction apparatus stores said unique ID information that is inputted by said input unit and said transaction ID information that is set up by said transaction apparatus in association with each other.

53. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information indicating unit of said first terminal comprises a display or a speaker.

54. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first terminal is a terminal for a plurality of unspecified user and said second terminal is a unique terminal for the user.

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55. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 54, wherein said second terminal is a portable terminal.
56. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 55, wherein said second terminal is a portable phone.
57. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transaction apparatus synchronizes the communication with said first terminal and said second terminal one-to-one.
58. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of second terminals and wherein said transaction apparatus synchronizes the communication with said first terminal and said second terminal one-to-many.
59. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 58, wherein said transaction apparatus permits said first terminal to perform a function and said transaction apparatus permits said second terminal to perform another function during the synchronization between said first terminal and said second terminal.
60. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 59, wherein said transaction apparatus permits a one way communication from said second terminal to said first terminal during the synchronization.
61. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 57, further comprising a plurality of first and second terminals, wherein said transaction apparatus sets up a plurality of different transaction ID information each other, based on each instant of the current time, in accordance with each of instruction from each of said first terminal.
62. (New) A method of a transaction system including a first terminal, a second terminal and a transaction apparatus communicating with said first and second terminals through a communication network, said first terminal having a indicating wit, said second terminal having a unique ID information and an input unit, and said second terminal being located at the same site as said first terminal and being connectable to said first terminal through the communication network; comprising:

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storing said unique ID information of said second terminal in said transaction apparatus;
connecting said first terminal with said transaction apparatus through the communication network;
setting up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal in said transaction apparatus;
sending said transaction ID information to said first terminal;
indicating said transaction ID information in said indicating unit of said first terminal;
inputting said transaction ID information to said input unit of said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal;
receiving from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information indicated on said information indicating unit of said first terminal; and
performing the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first and said second terminals when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said transaction apparatus.

63. (New) A method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising steps of inputting said unique ID information thereof from said input unit of said second terminal into said transaction apparatus, and wherein said storing said unique ID information includes storing said transaction ID information in association with said unique ID information, previously.

64. (New) A method as claimed in claim 62, wherein the transaction system includes a plurality of first terminals and second terminals; and wherein said setting up the transaction ID information includes setting up a plurality of different transaction ID information each other, based on each instant of the current time, in accordance with each of instruction from each of said first terminal.

65. (New) A method as claimed in claim 62, farther comprising a step of permitting said first terminal to perform a function and permitting said second terminal to perform another function, during the synchronization.

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66. (New) A recording medium which stores a program for a computer for a transaction system including a first terminal, a second terminal and a transaction apparatus communicating with said first and second terminal through a communication network, said first terminal having an indicating unit, said second terminal having a unique ID information and an input unit, and said second terminal being located at a same site as said first terminal; the recording medium comprising:

a storing module which stores said unique ID information of said second terminal in said transaction apparatus;

a connecting module which connects said first terminal with said transaction apparatus through the communication network; a setting up module which sets up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal in said transaction apparatus;

a sending module which sends said transaction ID information to said first terminal;

an indicating module for indicating said transaction ID information in said indicating unit of said first terminal;

an inputting module which inputs said transaction ID information to said input unit of said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal;

a receiving module which receives from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information indicated on said information indicating unit of said first terminal; and

a performing module which performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said transaction apparatus.

67. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said user database stores said unique ID information that is inputted by said input unit of said second terminal and said transaction ID information that is set up, in association with each other.

68. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said processing unit synchronizes the communication with said first terminal and said second terminal one-to-one.

69. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 68, further comprising a plurality of first and second terminals, wherein said processing unit sets up a plurality of different

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transaction ID information each other, based on each instant of the current time, in accordance with each of instruction from each of said first terminal.

70. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said processing unit permits said first terminal to perform a function and said transaction apparatus permits said second terminal to perform another function during the synchronization.

71. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 70, wherein said processing unit permits a one way communication from said second terminal to said first terminal during the synchronization.

72. (New) A method of a transaction apparatus for transacting through a communication network with a first terminal and a second terminal having unique ID information, comprising:

- storing said unique ID information of said second terminal previously;
- connecting to the first terminal via a first communicating network;
- setting up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal;
- connecting to the second terminal via a second communicating network;
- receiving from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information indicated on said first terminal and inputted through said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal; and
- performing the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored previously in said user database.

73. (New) A method as claimed in claim 72, wherein said storing said unique ID information of said second terminal includes storing both said unique ID information that is inputted by said input unit of said second terminal and said transaction ID information that is set up, in association with each other.

74. (New) A method as claimed in claim 72, wherein said connecting to the first terminal via the first communicating network includes connecting a plurality of first terminal;

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said connecting to the second terminal via a second communicating network includes connecting a plurality of second terminal; and

said setting up a transaction ID information includes setting up a plurality of different transaction ID information each other, based on each instant of the current time, in accordance with each of instruction from each of said first terminal.

75. (New) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said performing the transaction includes permitting said first terminal to perform at least a function and permitting said second terminal to perform another function during the synchronization.

76. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 75, wherein said performing the transaction further includes permitting a one way communication from said second terminal to said first terminal during the synchronization.

77. (New) A recording medium which stores a program for a computer for a transaction apparatus for transacting through a communication network with a first terminal and a second terminal having unique ID information, comprising:

a storing module which previously stores said unique ID information of said second terminal;

a setting up module which sets up a transaction ID information to be indicated on said first terminal;

a first connecting module which connects to the first terminal via a first communicating network;

a second connecting module which connects to the second terminal via a second communicating network;

a receiving module which receives from said second terminal said unique ID information of said second terminal together with said transaction ID information indicated on said first terminal and inputted through said second terminal at the same site as said first terminal; and

a performing module which performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said unique ID information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said user database.

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78. (New) A transaction system for transacting through a communication network, comprising:

a first terminal having a first information in association with a user and being connectable to the communication network;

a second terminal having a second information in association with the user and being connectable to said first terminal through the communication network; and

a transaction apparatus previously storing said first and second information, said transaction apparatus communicating with said first terminal through the communicating network and maintaining a communication with said first terminal when receiving the first information from said first terminal, and said transaction apparatus performing the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said second information received from said second terminal is identical with that stored in said transaction apparatus previously.

79. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 78 wherein said first terminal stores the second information in advance, and if said transaction apparatus does not store the second information previously, said apparatus transaction obtains the second information from said first terminal.

80. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 78, wherein said first terminal comprises an information indicating unit and wherein said transaction apparatus sends information including a predetermined status in relation to the transaction to said first terminal, and said second terminal obtains said information including the predetermined status that is indicated by said information indicating unit from other than the communication network.

81. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 80, wherein the predetermined status includes information that a preparation to synchronize said first and second terminals has been completed.

82. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 78, wherein said transaction apparatus starts to communicate with said second terminal when said transaction apparatus

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receives information in relation to the information including the predetermined status from said second terminal.

83. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 78, wherein said first terminal and said second terminal are located at the same site.

84. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 80, wherein said first terminal is a personal computer and said second terminal is a portable phone.

85. (New) A transaction system as claimed in claim 80, wherein said transaction apparatus synchronizes the communication with said first terminal and said second terminal one-to-one.

86. (New) A method of a transaction system including a first terminal, a second terminal and a transaction apparatus communicating with said first and second terminal through a communication network, said first terminal having a first information in association with a user, said second terminal having a second information in association with the user, comprising:

- storing said first and second information in said transaction apparatus previously;
- sending information from said first terminal to said transaction apparatus;
- maintaining a communication with said first terminal when the information received from said first terminal is identical with the first information that is stored previously in said transaction apparatus,

- sending information from said second terminal to said transaction apparatus, and
- performing the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when the information received from said second terminal is identical with the second information that is stored in said transaction apparatus.

87. (New) A method as claimed in claim 86, wherein said first terminal comprises an information indicating unit; and further comprising:

- sending information including a predetermined status in relation to the transaction from said transaction apparatus to said first terminal;

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indicating said information including the predetermined status at said information indication unit of said first terminal; and

sending said information including the predetermined status into said second terminal from other than the communication network.

88. (New) A method as claimed in claim 86, wherein said performing the transaction includes starting to communicate with said second terminal in a case when receiving information in relation to the information including the predetermined status from said second terminal.

89. (New) A method as claimed in claim 88, wherein the predetermined status includes information that a preparation to synchronize said first and second terminals has been completed.

90. (New) A recording medium which stores a program for a computer for a transaction system including a first terminal, a second terminal and a transaction apparatus communicating with said first and second terminal through a communication network, said first terminal having a first information in association with a user, said second terminal having a second information in association with the user, the recording medium comprising:

a storing module which stores said first and second information in said transaction apparatus;

a first sending module which sends information from said first terminal to said transaction apparatus;

a maintaining module which maintains a communication with said first terminal when the information received from said first terminal is identical with the first information that is stored in said transaction apparatus,

a second sending module which sends information from said second terminal to said transaction apparatus, and

performing module which performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when the information received from said second terminal is identical with the second information that is stored in said transaction apparatus.

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91. (New) A transaction apparatus for transacting through a communication network with a first terminal having a first information in association with a user and a second terminal having a second information in association with the user, comprising:

- a user database for previously storing said first and second information;
 - a first communication unit for connecting to the first terminal via a first communication network;
 - a processing unit for maintaining a communication with the first terminal when receiving the first information from the first terminal; and
 - a second communication unit for connecting to the second terminal via a second communication network and receiving information from said second terminal,
- wherein said processing unit performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said information received from said second terminal is identical with said second information that stored in said user database.

92. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein said first information and said second information are the same information.

93. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 91, wherein said processing unit permits said first terminal to perform a function and permits said second terminal to perform another function during the synchronization.

94. (New) A transaction apparatus as claimed in claim 93, wherein said processing unit permits a one way communication from said second terminal to said first terminal during the synchronization.

95. (New) A method of a transaction apparatus for transacting through a communication network with a first terminal having a first information in association with a user and a second terminal having a second information in association with the user, the method comprising:

- storing said first and second information;
- connecting to the first terminal via a first communicating network;

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maintaining a communication with the first terminal when receiving the first information from the first terminal;

receiving information from said second terminal and connecting to the second terminal via a second communicating network; and

performing the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said information received from said second terminal is identical with said second information that stored in said user database.

96. (New) A recording medium which stores a program for a computer for a transaction apparatus for transacting through a communication network with a first terminal having a first information in association with a user and a second terminal having a second information in association with the user, the recording medium comprising:

a storing module which stores said first and second information;

a connecting module which connects to the first terminal via a first communication network;

a maintaining module which maintains a communication with the first terminal when receiving the first information from the first terminal;

a connecting module which receives information from said second terminal and connects to the second terminal via a second communication network; and

a performing module which performs the transaction by synchronizing a communication with said first terminal and said second terminal when said information received from said second terminal is identical with said second information that is stored in said user database.